

Message Text

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SUBJ: DRAFT METEOROLOGICAL AGREEMENT FOR COLOMBIA

REF: A) STATE A-4255; B) STATE 238631; C) BOGOTA 11644

1 ON DECEMBER 16 EMBOFFS MET WITH HERNANDO GALEANO, SECRETARY GENERAL, AND EUFRASIO BERNAL, CHIEF OF THE METEOROLOGICAL DIVISION, OF THE COLOMBIAN METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICE TO DISCUSS DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES-COLOMBIA COOPERATIVE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATION PROGRAM. ALSO PRESENT WERE JOSE PLATA, ECONOMIC OFFICER, AND JOAQUIN FONSECA, UNDERSECRETARY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. GOC REPRESENTATIVES CLAIMED THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN MAKING PAYMENTS DUE FOR 1973 AND 1974. THEY STATED 1975 PRESENTED A PROBLEM INASMUCH AS COLOMBIAN COOPERATING AGENCY CHANGED DURING 1975 AND NEITHER FORMER NOR PRESENT AGENCY HAD INCLUDED NECESSARY FUNDS IN BUDGET. THEY AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WAS AN INTERNAL GOC PROBLEM AND THEY SAID THEY WOULD PROCEED TO AMEND THE APPROPRIATE BUDGETS. THEY REQUESTED WE PROVIDE A WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR THE AMOUNT DUE FOR 1973-74. PLEASE PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FISCAL DATA (INCLUDING ACCOUNT NUMBERS) SO THAT WE CAN SUBMIT A XCATEMENT.

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3. DISCUSSION THEN FOCUSED ON THE \$48,000 CHARGE

PROJECTED FOR 1976 COSTS OF CHEMICALS, BALLOONS, TRANSPORTATION, ETC., AS CONTAINED IN PARA 3A OF DRAFT MOA. THE COLOMBIANS REQUESTED A DETAILED COST BREAKDOWN OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES IN ORDER TO SUBSTANTIATE EXPENDITURE FOR THEIR BUDGET. PLEASE PROVIDE DATA.

4. COLOMBIANS NOTED USE OF ELECTROLYTIC GENERATOR AT SAN ANDRES STATION WHICH OBVIATES CONTINUED USE OF COSTLY CHEMICAL PROCEED AND ASKED IF WE COULD SUPPLY AT OUR COST A SIMILAR GENERATOR FOR BOGOTA. IF AND WHEN GENERATOR ON STATION AND FUNTIONING, FURTHER PROVISION OF CHEMICALS WOULD STOP AND RESULT IN A REDUCTION OF ANNUAL PAYMENTS. THEY WISH MOA TO REFLECT COMMITMENT BY THE U. S. TO PROVIDE A GNERATOR AND TO RENEGOTIATE ANNUAL PAYMENT WHEN IT IS INSTALLED AND FUNTIONING. WE UNDERSTAND AND HAVE SO ADVISED COLOMBIANS THAT THE ELECTROLYCT GENERATOR IS PRODUCED IN CANADA AND THAT DELIVERY MAY TAKE UP TO 18MONTHS. PLEASE ADVISE REGARDING WILLINGNESS TO (A) PROVIDE GENERATOR, (B) RENEGOTIATE COSTS WHEN IT IS FUNCTIONING AND (C) AMEND MOA ACCORDINGLY. IF ACCEPTABLE, PLEASE PROVIDE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE FOR AMENDMENT.

5. COLOMBIANS ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF PERMANENT U. S. TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE STATIONED IN COLOMBIA. THEY SUGGESTED U. S. COSTS COULD BE REDUCED IF ADVISOR WERE STATIONED ELSEWHERE BUT AVAILABLE FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULE VISITS AND/OR ON CALL AS THE SPECIFIC NEED AROSE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS CONCEPT REFLECTED IN THE MOA. IF ACCEPTABLE, PLEASE PROVIDE LANGUAGE FOR AMENDMENT.

6. GOC REPRESENTATIVES VOICED NO OTHER EXCEPTIONS TO DRAFT AGREEMENT OR MOA..
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